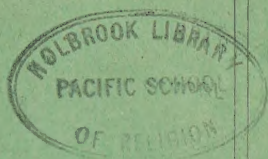


MINUTES



OF THE

# SYNOD OF THE PACIFIC,

AT ITS SESSION OF

OCTOBER, A. D. 1874,

HELD IN THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

OF

SACRAMENTO, CAL.

SAN FRANCISCO :

RY & CO., STEAM BOOK & ORNAMENTAL JOB PRINTERS,

414 Market Street, below Sansome.

1875.

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## *OFFICERS OF THE SYNOD.*

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Moderator	-	-	-	REV. FREDERIC E. SHEARER
Stated Clerk	-	-	-	“ “ “
Treasurer	-	-	-	“ “ “
Temporary Clerk	-	-	-	“ T. MADISON DAWSON
Temporary Clerk	-	-	-	“ C. D. ROBERTS

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## *STANDING COMMITTEES.*

### Home Missions:

Rev. ROBERT PATTERSON, D. D.,	H. H. HAIGHT,
Rev. W. W. BRIER,	J. B. CONKLIN,
Rev. JAMES M. NEWELL,	J. S. THOMPSON,
Rev. A. L. LINDSLEY, D. D.,	R. MORGAN,
Rev. W. C. MOSHER,	WILLIAM WADHAMS,
Rev. N. B. KLINK,	THOMAS DOUGLASS.

### Foreign Missions:

Professor W. ALEXANDER,	N. GRAY,
Rev. IRA M. CONDIT,	A. INGRAM,
Rev. L. THOMPSON,	R. MORGAN,
Rev. E. GEARY, D. D.,	S. A. HASTINGS,
Rev. R. WYLIE,	E. B. BABBITT,
Rev. W. C. MOSHER,	J. S. THOMPSON.

### Publication:

Rev. E. M. BETTS,	J. B. ROBERTS,
Rev. F. E. SHEARER,	A. DILLEY,
Rev. R. R. WELLS,	J. B. CONKLIN,
Rev. H. A. MAYHEW,	J. OLIVER,
Rev. GEORGE WHITWORTH,	A. A. SAUNDERS,
Rev. J. PHELPS, D. D.,	T. M. READ.

## Education:

Rev. W. A. SCOTT, D. D., LL. D.,	STEPHEN FRANKLIN,
Rev. A. M. STEWART, D. D.,	W. CHALMERS,
Rev. F. L. NASH,	T. B. MCCLURE,
Rev. S. S. HARMON,	R. B. WELLER,
Rev. C. H. CRAWFORD,	GEORGE HICKS,
Rev. E. GEARY, D. D.,	WILLIAM WADHAMS.

## Church Erection:

Rev. N. B. KLINK,	CHARLES GEDDES,
Rev. C. D. ROBERTS,	J. MARCHANT,
Rev. JAMES EELLS, D. D.,	F. HILTON,
Rev. E. H. POST,	WM. CRAIG, M. D.,
Rev. E. GRAHAM,	THOMAS M. READ,
Rev. A. L. LINDSLEY, D. D.,	S. DUNCAN.

## Ministerial Relief:

Rev. H. A. MAYHEW,	R. MCKEE,
Rev. E. M. BETTS,	J. M. F. JOHNSON,
Rev. A. WILLIAMS,	ROBERT ANDREWS,
Rev. H. R. AVERY,	E. B. BABBIT,
Rev. JOHN MARQUIS,	— WINTERS,
Rev. A. L. LINDSLEY, D. D.	

Seminary p - 17 ( + 25 )

## MINUTES.

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SACRAMENTO, October 6th, 1874.

The Synod of the Pacific met, according to adjournment, in the Presbyterian Church of Sacramento, on Tuesday, October 6th, A. D. 1874, at 7½ o'clock P. M. The Moderator, Rev. A. L. Lindsley, D. D., was absent. Rev. N. B. Klink, of the Presbytery of Benicia, preached the opening sermon from Acts viii, 5, after which the Synod was constituted with prayer.

The roll was called, and the attendance was as follows:

### PRESBYTERY OF BENICIA.

*Ministers present*—R. R. Wells, Thomas Fraser, N. B. Klink, R. McCulloch, H. R. Avery, James Mitchell, A. Fairbairn and Hugh McLeod.

*Ministers absent*—R. Wylie, T. E. Taylor, J. S. Todd, C. H. Crawford, J. L. Woods, A. J. Compton, M. D., F. M. Dimmick, J. R. Hammond, B. I. Lowe and J. L. Drum.

*Elders present*—W. N. Hampton, of Westminster Church.

### PRESBYTERY OF LOS ANGELES.

*Ministers present*—Robert Strong.

*Ministers absent*—J. Phelps, D. D., John Marquis, William C. Mosher, D. F. McFarland, J. G. Downing, Edward Graham and F. L. Nash.

*Elders present*—None.

### PRESBYTERY OF OREGON.

*Ministers present*—None.

*Ministers absent*—John S. Reasoner, R. Cheadle, H. H. Spaulding, W. J. Monteith, E. R. Geary, D. D., M. A. Williams, A. L.



Lindsley, D.D., George Whitworth, Theodore Crowl, Robert Robe, J. R. Thompson, W. R. Stewart, John Rea, T. J. Weekes, M. G. Mann, W. A. Smick, Henry Gaus, A. Simpson, J. A. Hanna, D. K. Nesbit and George W. Sloane.

*Elders present*—None.

#### PRESBYTERY OF SACRAMENTO.

*Ministers present*—N. Slater, L. Thompson, J. N. Hubbard, James Pierpont, H. A. Mayhew, C. D. Roberts, J. M. Newell, John Mack, H. B. McBride, J. D. Jewell and A. M. Stewart, D.D.

*Ministers absent*—B. B. Bonham, James Woods, I. N. Hurd, W. C. McKaig, D.D. and Samuel Robinson.

*Elders present*—J. M. F. Johnson, of Ione Church, A. Aiken, of Sacramento Church.

#### PRESBYTERY OF SAN FRANCISCO.

*Ministers present*—J. Sessions, D.D., W. A. Scott, D.D., LL.D., D. W. Poor, D.D., A. W. Loomis, D.D., S. Woodbridge, D.D., E. Verrue, James Eells, D.D., William Alexander, T. M. Dawson, Frederic E. Shearer, John Hemphill, J. Woodworth and Calvin A. Poage.

*Ministers absent*—Albert Williams, George Burrows, D.D., E. Halliday, S. T. Wells, H. S. Carpenter, D.D., R. V. Dodge, C. T. Mills, D.D., William Buehren, Robert Patterson, D.D., E. J. Vail, T. M. Cunningham, D.D., J. D. Strong, David McClure, Ira M. Condit, P. V. Veeder, D.D., Richard G. McCarthy and S. P. Whiting.

*Elders present*—George K. Gluyas, of St. John's Church, Redick McKee, of Calvary Church.

#### PRESBYTERY OF SAN JOSE.

*Ministers present*—W. W. Brier, John Edwards, C. W. Anthony, E. H. Post and S. P. Heron.

*Ministers absent*—A. F. White, LL.D., W. H. Wilson, S. S. Harmon, H. H. Dobbins, J. McDonald, W. F. B. Lynch, J. M. Alexander, E. M. Betts, M. Post, J. H. Hawk\* and Clement E. Babb, D.D.

*Elders present*—Abraham Dilley, of Santa Clara Church.

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\* Deceased, November 1874.



Rev. Frederic E. Shearer, of the Presbytery of San Francisco, was elected Moderator, and Rev. T. M. Dawson, of the Presbytery of San Francisco, and Rev. C. D. Roberts of the Presbytery of Sacramento, Temporary Clerks.

The Committee of Arrangements reported, and the report as amended and adopted is as follows:

Your Committee of Arrangements would respectfully report:

That the daily sessions of the Synod be from 9 o'clock A. M. to 12 M., and from 2 to 5 o'clock P. M., and an evening session commencing at 7½ o'clock.

That the first half hour of each morning session be spent in devotional exercises.

That Wednesday afternoon from 3½ o'clock, and Wednesday evening, be set apart for Sunday-school meetings.

That the Narrative of the State of Religion be read on Thursday evening at 7½ o'clock, and the remainder of the evening be devoted to a missionary meeting, with voluntary addresses on the work of the Church.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

A. AIKEN, Chairman.

The Docket was read, and the Synod adjourned. Concluded with prayer by Rev. A. Fairbairn.

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WEDNESDAY MORNING, October 7th, 1874.

The Synod met at 9 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment, and spent half an hour in devotional exercises under the direction of the Moderator. The roll was called and there were present as yesterday, and also as follows:

PRESBYTERY OF BENICIA.

*Ministers present*—Richard Wylie.

*Elders present*—Robert Morgan, of Santa Rosa Church, A. A. Saunders, of Westminster Church.

PRESBYTERY OF OREGON.

*Ministers present*—A. H. Bates.

PRESBYTERY OF SACRAMENTO.

*Ministers present*—Samuel Robinson.

## PRESBYTERY OF SAN FRANCISCO.

*Ministers present*—Albert Williams.

*Elders present*—N. Gray, of First Church of San Francisco.

## PRESBYTERY OF SAN JOSE.

*Ministers present*—H. H. Dobbins.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Moderator then announced the following committees:

1. ON BILLS AND OVERTURES—Ministers: James M. Newell, John Sessions, D.D., John Hemphill. Elder: George K. Gluyas.
2. ON JUDICIAL BUSINESS—Ministers: James Eells, D.D., W. A. Scott, D.D., LL.D., John Edwards. Elders: Redick McKee, A. Aiken.
3. ON MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY—D. W. Poor, D.D., R. R. Wells. Elder: Abraham Dilley.
4. ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE—Ministers: A. Fairbairn, J. Pierpont, E. H. Post.
5. ON THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNT—Ministers: W. W. Brier, J. Mitchell, H. A. Mayhew.
6. ON FINANCE AND MILEAGE—Ministers: Robert Strong, J. Mitchell, J. M. Newell. Elders: A. Aiken, A. Dilley.
7. ON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY—Ministers: J. Edwards, N. Slater, R. Strong, C. A. Poage. Elder: J. W. Stewart.
8. ON CORRESPONDENCE—Ministers: D. W. Poor, A. Fairbairn. Elder: N. Gray.
9. ON SUNDAY-SCHOOL MEETING FOR 1875—Ministers: A. M. Stewart, D.D., E. H. Post, C. A. Poage.
10. ON NARRATIVE FOR 1875—Ministers: S. Woodbridge, D.D., E. M. Betts. Elder: R. J. Trumbull.

## ON THE RECORDS OF THE PRESBYTERIES.

1. OF BENICIA—Ministers: A. W. Loomis, D.D., C. W. Anthony, H. B. McBride.
2. OF LOS ANGELES—Ministers: R. McCulloch, E. Verrue. Elder: J. B. Jewell.
3. OF OREGON—Ministers: S. P. Heron, R. Strong, H. H. Dobbins.

4. OF SACRAMENTO—Ministers: W. Alexander, H. R. Avery, A. H. Bates.

5. OF SAN FRANCISCO—Ministers: N. B. Klink, Hugh McLeod. Elder: J. M. F. Johnson.

6. OF SAN JOSE—Ministers: Thomas Fraser, J. N. Hubbard, L. Thompson.

On motion a Committee on Credentials was appointed, to which was referred the right of Elder J. W. Stewart, of the Howard street Church, in the Presbytery of San Francisco, to a seat in the Synod. The Moderator named as the Committee: Ministers, J. Edwards, J. M. Newell, A. Fairbairn, Robert Strong, and Elder N. Gray.

The following report was received, amended and adopted, viz.:

Your Committee on Standing Rules would respectfully report, recommending the following be the Standing Rules of the Synod of the Pacific:

I. The Synod shall meet annually, on the first Tuesday of October, at such hour and place as shall be designated at the meeting of the preceding year.

II. The place of meeting shall be determined by a majority, and not by a plurality, of votes. After calling the roll for the first vote the two places having the greatest number of votes shall alone be voted for.

III. At each meeting of Synod, a Committee of Arrangements shall be appointed to provide for the entertainment of Synod at its next meeting.

IV. The session of the church in which the Synod is to meet shall be a Committee on Devotional Exercises, and propose to Synod the time and character of such special, public, religious services as may be desirable, and not otherwise provided for.

V. The first half-hour of every morning session shall be spent in devotional exercises.

VI. The annual meeting of Synod shall be opened with a sermon by the Moderator; or, in case of his absence, by another member appointed at each meeting for the next succeeding meeting.

VII. The officers of the Synod shall be a Moderator, Stated Clerk, two Temporary Clerks and a Treasurer—all to be elected by a majority vote. The Moderator and Temporary Clerks shall serve for one year; the Stated Clerk and Treasurer during the pleasure of the Synod.

VIII. The Stated Clerk shall give due notice through the *Occident* of the time and place of each meeting of Synod; and prepare for each meeting and keep a Docket of the business that



is to come before the Synod. The compensation for the services of the Stated Clerk shall be fifty dollars per annum.

IX. The roll of each Presbytery is to be forwarded by its Stated Clerk immediately after its last meeting next preceding the meeting of Synod, to the Stated Clerk of Synod.

X. Each Presbytery is required to report to each annual meeting of Synod, the number of churches, ministers, licentiates and candidates within the bounds of the Presbytery; and also the changes that have taken place during the year, whether from death, reception and dismissal of ministers, ordinations, installations, licensures, dissolution of pastoral relationships, organization or dissolution of churches, or from any other cause whatever.

XI. Each Presbytery shall also forward a written Narrative on the State of Religion in its bounds to the Committee of Synod on the Narratives, as soon as possible before the meeting of Synod.

XII. The following Standing Committees shall be appointed at each annual meeting:

1. On Bills and Overtures, to consist of five members.
2. On Judicial Business, five members.
3. On Minutes of the General Assembly, three members.
4. On Leave of Absence, three members.
5. On the Treasurer's Account, three members.
6. On Finance and Mileage, five members.
7. On Theological Seminary, five members.
8. On Correspondence, three members.
9. On Synodical Sunday-school meetings, three members.
10. On the Narrative of the State of Religion in the bounds of the Synod for the ensuing year, three members.
11. On the Records of the Presbyteries, as many committees as there are Presbyteries in the Synod, to consist of three members each.
12. On Home Missions.
13. On Foreign Missions.
14. On Education.
15. On Publication.
16. On Church Erection.
17. On Ministerial Relief.

Each Committee to be one Minister and one Elder from each Presbytery; including the Chairmen of the respective Committees in each Presbytery. Vacancies to be filled by the Moderator.

XIII. Standing Committees shall report in writing at each annual meeting of Synod.

XIV. Members of Synod absent from its sessions shall assign the reasons for such absence by letter, and those reasons shall be referred to the Committee on Leave of Absence, and be reported thereon.

XV. The Minutes shall be published in pamphlet form under direction of the Stated Clerk, and a copy sent to every minister, and to the session of every vacant church.

XVI. The General Rules for Judicatories, adopted by the General Assembly, are hereby adopted as a part of these Standing Rules, so far as they are not inconsistent herewith.

XVII. An assessment for the Contingent and Mileage Fund shall be made at each meeting of Synod for the ensuing year, and churches shall be required to contribute to this according to their membership published in the Minutes of the General Assembly last preceding the meeting of Synod at which the assessment falls due. But nothing shall be required for Indians who may be members of any of our mission churches.

XVIII. After the contingent expenses of Synod are paid, the balance shall be applied toward paying the necessary travelling expenses of the members of Synod, so far as it may be sufficient for this purpose.

XIX. Travelling expenses shall be reckoned only by the cheapest route.

XX. Pastors, Stated Supplies, and Elders of churches shall not be entitled to any portion of their mileage unless their respective churches have contributed their assessment in full.

XXI. The roll shall be called at the opening and close of the sessions of Synod, and the names of the absentees marked.

XXII. The Committee on Sunday-school meeting shall report for adoption a programme for a Sunday-school meeting or meetings to be held in connection with the next meeting of Synod.

The following memorial from the Church of Brooklyn, Presbytery of San Francisco, was received, and referred, on motion, to the Committee on Bills and Overtures, to wit :

*To the Synod of the Pacific in Session at Sacramento, October 6th, 1874:*

THE PASTOR AND SESSION OF THE BROOKLYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, GREETING :—Whereas the Synod of the Pacific, at its annual meeting in Calvary Church, San Francisco, 1873, appointed a Committee to report alterations in the bounds of the Presbytery of San Jose, and,

Whereas, such alterations may sever this church from its present relations to the Presbytery of San Francisco, as proposed or desired by some, and,

Whereas, such alteration would be exceedingly undesirable to this church, we most respectfully and earnestly overture your Honorable and Reverend Body to make no alteration which will change our present relations to the Presbytery of San Francisco.

T. M. DAWSON,  
Moderator of Session.

The following was also referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures:

OAKLAND, September 30th, 1874.

*To the Synod of the Pacific :*

FATHERS AND BRETHREN :—It being understood that at your next Annual Meeting the Synod will re-adjust the metes and bounds of the various Presbyteries under its jurisdiction ; and wishing to designate the Presbytery to which they prefer to be attached, the Session of the first Presbyterian Church, Oakland, have carefully considered the question and instructed me to communicate their unanimous request that they be permitted to retain their connection with the Presbytery of San Francisco.

The most of our members were formerly connected with churches in San Francisco, and the pleasant associations of the past—the *home feeling*, that venerates a mother's care, will be conserved by retaining our Presbyterianial alliance with them. Oakland is only a suburb of San Francisco, separated or rather *united* by a narrow bay, which affords frequent and speedy communication with that place, and delegates from our Church can most easily attend the meetings of that Presbytery. For these, and various other reasons, we seek no change.

Respectfully submitted.

G. W. ARMES,  
Committee.

And the following from the Church at San Rafael was also received and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures, viz. :

*To the Synod of the Pacific, to meet in Sacramento, October, 1874 :*

DEAR BRETHREN :—Whereas, in our Presbyterianial connections we are practically removed from the other churches of the Presbytery, and attendance upon all meetings of Presbytery requires Pastor and Elder to go to San Francisco in order to reach the place of meeting, and,

Whereas, San Rafael is in reality a suburban town of San Francisco, and,

Whereas, we believe that a change of Presbyterianial relation would bring us into stronger sympathy with the churches of San Francisco, which are naturally nearest to us ;

Therefore, we do most respectfully overture your Honorable Body to transfer the church of San Rafael from the Presbytery of Benicia to the Presbytery of San Francisco.

J. S. HAWK, Pastor,  
And fifteen others.

A complaint was received from Rev. S. Woodbridge, D.D., against the action of the Presbytery of San Francisco, and, on



motion, it was referred to a special committee. The Moderator appointed as such committee: Ministers, W. W. Brier, John Mack and J. M. Newell, and Elders, W. H. Hampton and J. M. F. Johnson.

Revs. James S. McCoy, of the Synod of Toledo, John M. Allis, of the Synod of Michigan, and J. H. Byers, of the Synod of Missouri, being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

The Committee on Credentials reported that Elder J. W. Stewart should be admitted, but his admission not construed so as to prejudice the case of the complaint of Rev. Dr. Woodbridge against the Presbytery of San Francisco. The report was adopted.

A memorial in regard to union between the Pacific (Cumberland Presbyterian,) Synod and the Synod of the Pacific, was received and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures, after which Synod took recess until two o'clock P. M.

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AFTER RECESS.

At two o'clock P. M., the Synod was called to order.

Rev. Dr. Loomis informed the Synod of the illness of Rev. Ira M. Condit, appointed to read a paper on Chinese Sunday-schools at the Sunday-school meeting to be held this evening, and, on motion, Dr. Loomis was requested to read the paper prepared by Mr. Condit, at the appointed time.

Rev. Dr. Scott, on behalf of the Committee on Education, made a verbal report, which was, on motion, accepted.

Presbyterial reports were received as follows, to wit:

The Presbytery of San Jose would respectfully report that it consists of sixteen ministers and sixteen churches. It dismissed, April 8th, 1874, Rev. Edward Graham to the Presbytery of Los Angeles, and on September 30th, 1874, to the same Presbytery, Rev. A. F. White, LL.D., and on September 30th, 1874, to the Presbytery of Sacramento, Rev. A. M. Stewart, D.D.

The following members were received: April 7th, 1874, Samuel P. Herron, from the Presbytery of Northumberland; Edmund H. Post, from the Presbytery of Logansport, and Hugh H. Dobbins, from the Presbytery of Los Angeles; September 30th, 1874, Clement E. Babb, D.D., from the Presbytery of Cincinnati,

and October 7th, 1874, Wm. Alexander, from the Presbytery of San Francisco. Two churches have been organized, viz: September 20th, 1874, the church of Cambria, and October 25th, 1873, the church of Menlo Park. The pastoral relation between Rev. A. M. Stewart, D.D., and the church at Gilroy, was dissolved April 8th, 1874. Two churches are vacant, viz: Cambria and Gilroy.

Four church edifices have been erected and dedicated, viz: Livermore, Milpitas, Menlo Park and Salinas City.

All the congregations are in a prosperous condition.

W. W. BRIER,  
Stated Clerk.

The report was accepted.

The Presbytery of Los Angeles would respectfully report, that it consists of eight ministers and nine churches, with 299 members. During the year it has received Rev. Edward Graham, from the Presbytery of San Jose; Rev. W. S. McLaren, from the Presbytery of Geneva; Rev. D. F. McFarland, from the Presbytery of Santa Fe; and it has dismissed Rev. John Mack to the Presbytery of Sacramento.

Two members have gone to their rest: Rev. W. S. McLaren, July 12th, 1874, aged 50 years, and Rev. L. P. Webber, September 25th, 1874, aged 41 years.

Three new churches have been organized and taken under the care of the Presbytery, viz: Los Angeles, January 11th, 1874; San Bernardino, January 25th, 1874, and Orange, February 8th, 1874.

ROBERT STRONG,  
Stated Clerk.

The report was accepted.

The Presbytery of Benicia would respectfully report: Our Presbytery consists of eighteen ministers and twenty-two churches. There are about 760 members in our churches.

Two ministers have been dismissed during the year, viz.: W. H. Cain, to the Presbytery of Utica, and Charles S. Dewing, to the Presbytery of Binghamton. Four ministers have been received, viz.: on October 7th, 1873, A. J. Compton, M.D., from the Presbytery of San Jose, and J. L. Woods, from the Presbytery of San Francisco; and October 3d, 1874, A. Fairbairn, from the Presbytery of Sacramento, and Hugh McLeod, from the Presbytery of San Francisco. On the same day James L. Drum, a licentiate, was received from the Presbytery of San Francisco, and ordained to the work of the gospel ministry.

One member has departed this life, viz.: Rev. James Wylie, 14th March, 1874.

Four churches have been organized, viz.: Bolinas, November, 1873; Ukiah, April 5th, 1874; St. Helena, 30th May, 1874, and Clear Lake 2d, August 9th, 1874.

Three new fields have been occupied, viz.: Stoney Point, Marshall's Landing and Bolinas.

Three church debts have been paid, viz.: at Calistoga, at Davisville and at Bodega. One new church is in process of erection, viz.: at Napa.

N. B. KLINK,  
Stated Clerk.

The report was accepted.

The Presbytery of San Francisco reported as follows:

The Presbytery of San Francisco would respectfully report, that it consists of twenty-nine ministers and sixteen churches, and has under its care two licentiates and five candidates for the gospel ministry.

On March 18th, 1874, the Presbytery licensed, as probationers for the ministry: Samuel E. Hoar, Henry Gustav Kieme, James Curry and James L. Drum; and received, March 17th, 1874, Rev Robert Patterson, D.D., from the Presbytery of Chicago; July 16th, 1874, Rev. Edward Verrue, from the Presbytery of Benicia, and Rev. Hugh McLeod, from the Winnebago District Convention of Congregational Ministers in Wisconsin, and July 25th, 1874, Rev. W. A. Halliday, from the Valley Association of Congregational Ministers in California.

As candidates for the gospel ministry it received Mr. Frederic E. Brooks, March 17th, 1874, and Mr. Francis Robinson and James A. Smith, M.D., September 22d, 1874.

It dismissed, September 7th, 1874, Mr. James L. Drum, a Licentiate, and on September 22d, 1874, Rev. Hugh McLeod to the Presbytery of Benicia; and April 30th, 1874, Samuel E. Hoar, a Licentiate, to the Presbytery of Sacramento; and yesterday, October 6th, 1874, Rev. W. Alexander, to the Presbytery of San Jose.

Rev. Frederic Buel died October 27th, 1873, at the age of 60 years.

The pastoral relation between Rev. R. V. Dodge and the First Church of San Francisco was dissolved March 17th, 1874, and Rev. Robert Patterson, D.D., installed pastor of the same church April 5th, 1874.

The Second Church, of Oakland, and the First German Church of San Francisco, were dissolved April 10th, 1874.

F. E. SHEARER,  
Stated Clerk.

The report was accepted.

The Presbytery of Sacramento reported as follows:

The Presbytery of Sacramento consists of seventeen ministers and twenty churches, and has under its care one licentiate and one candidate for the ministry.



The following ministers have been dismissed to other bodies : Charles Shelling, to the New Hampshire Annual Conference of the M. E. Church; W. W. Macomber, to the Presbytery of Utica; A. Fairbairn, to the Presbytery of Benicia; and John Creath, to the Presbytery of Neosho.

The Presbytery has received the following ministers, viz.: John Niles Hubbard, from the Congregational Valley Association of California; H. B. McBride, from the Presbytery of Wyoming; A. M. Stewart, D.D., from the Presbytery of San Jose; J. B. Jewell, from the Presbytery of Saginaw; John Mack, from the Presbytery of Los Angeles.

One licentiate has been dismissed to the Presbytery of San Francisco, viz.: Thomas Kirkland; and one received from the Presbytery of San Francisco, viz.: Samuel E. Hoar. One candidate for the ministry has been received under the care of Presbytery, viz.: C. S. Clayson.

Two churches have been received under the care of the Presbytery, viz.: One at Greyson and one at Colusa.

The pastoral relation between Rev. Charles Shelling and the Church at Sacramento has been dissolved.

N. SLATER,  
Stated Clerk.

The report was accepted.

No report was received from the Presbytery of Oregon.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures had leave to retire.

The Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly reported verbally and the report was accepted.

Rev. David Deal and Rev. A. M. Hough, of the California Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members.

Rev. Thomas Fraser, the Synodical Missionary, made his report, part of which is as follows :

During the year we have organized thirteen churches, viz.: Bolinas, Greyson, Ukiah, Colusa, Menlo Park, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Orange, St. Helena, Lakeport, Cambria, Marshfield and Tualitin Plains. These have more than 200 members. Nearly all occupy growing towns. Two are supplied by the graduates of our own Theological Seminary, and are the first fruits of their labors. Eureka, Livermore, Milpitas, Salinas and Menlo Park have finished houses of worship. Fifty seven missionaries of the Board have labored in this Synod, and nearly 500 been added to their churches.

The Board expended in this Synod, from April 1st, 1873, to April 1st, 1874, \$25,765.63, and received from the churches of the Synod, in the same time, \$1,739.50.

The report was accepted and referred to the Committee on Home Missions.

Rev. Dr. Eells, Chairman of a Committee of the Presbytery of San Francisco, reported the action of said Presbytery, proposing that some means should be provided of at least furnishing Dr. Woodbridge, the choice, without a sacrifice of support, between the publication of *The Occident* and the pastoral charge of the Howard-street Church, his whole time and labor being devoted to what he may choose.

On motion, the subject was referred to a special Committee and the Moderator appointed as such Committee, Revs. James Eells, D.D., J. Hemphill, R. Wylie, R. Strong, W. W. Brier, J. H. Bates and J. M. Newell.

The First Church of Oakland was chosen as the place of the next meeting, and the Session of the Church appointed a Committee of Arrangements, and also a Committee on Devotional Exercises.

Rev. John Hemphill was elected alternate to the Moderator to preach next year, in case of the Moderator's absence.

The Directors of the San Francisco Theological Seminary presented the following report :

SAN FRANCISCO, October 1st, 1874.

*To the Synod of the Pacific in Session at Sacramento, California :*

DEAR BRETHREN :—In presenting our Annual Report, we beg leave to say that the condition and prospects of the Seminary are not materially different from what they were last year. Mr. James L. Drum graduated at the close of last term, he being the first student who has pursued his whole course in our Seminary.

The Professors are all at their posts doing their work as well as the necessity of earning their living at other labor will admit.

There are now six students in the Seminary, of whom three are in the Senior Class, two in the Middle and one in the Junior.

During the last year we have received very few additions to the Library.

Our expectations of securing an endowment from the East last winter were frustrated by the financial crisis that came upon the country with such crushing effect. Rev. Dr. Cunningham had gone East and was in New York at the time, but thought best to postpone the effort until more favorable times. He has again gone East and is engaged in prosecuting the work of

raising an endowment at the present time, but it is too soon to report anything as to the success of his mission.

Rev. W. W. Brier, the agent on this coast, has not attempted much in the way of raising funds here, thinking it best to defer pushing the matter until it is ascertained what our success would be at the East.

In view of the urgent need of funds and the vital importance of securing endowments, scholarships, etc., we commend these brethren to your hearty sympathy, your earnest prayers and your liberal pecuniary benefactions.

The term of the following Directors expires at the present meeting of Synod : Rev. Dr. Cunningham, Revs. Alexander, Brier and Hemphill, and Elders S. Franklin and R. J. Trumbull.

There are also two vacancies in the other classes of Directors. One in the class going out in 1875 and one in the class going out in 1876.

We ask the Synod that all these vacancies be filled.

The report of the Committee on the Contingent Fund is herewith submitted, showing money received for this fund, \$522 80; paid out, as per receipts, \$500; balance on hand, \$22 80.

The Synod is urgently requested to take such action as will result in a large increase in the contributions from our churches to this fund, in aid of our students.

R. J. TRUMBULL,

Secretary Board of Directors.

The report was accepted and referred to the Committee on Theological Seminaries.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported back a memorial in reference to union with the Cumberland Presbyterian Pacific Synod.

The report is as follows :

To your Committee was referred the following memorial, to wit :

We, the undersigned, ministers and elders belonging to the Synod of the Pacific, do hereby humbly and earnestly unite in the following memorial to your Reverend Body to meet in the city of Sacramento October 6th, 1874 :

I. That you will be pleased to consider the documents which we hereby lay before you concerning an informal and fraternal meeting of several members of your own body and of the Cumberland Presbyterian Synod, the Call for the said meeting, (marked A), the Minutes thereof (marked B), and the Result arrived at in the said meetings (marked C). (For these papers see Appendix I.)



II. We earnestly ask you to take such immediate action thereupon as in your wisdom may seem most for the good of the cause of truth and righteousness as connected with both branches of the church on this coast, specially with reference to a cordial endorsement of the faith and Christian standing of our brethren of the Cumberland Presbyterian Synod, and a full-hearted invitation to them to unite with us on the plan suggested in the paper adopted by the above conference, which is marked C. And as in duty bound, we are yours faithfully for the Cross and Covenant of our Lord Jesus Christ.

W. A. SCOTT, W. ALEXANDER, JOHN HEMPHILL, ROBERT PATTERSON, FREDERIC E. SHEARER, A. HEMME, JAMES B. ROBERTS, C. A. POAGE, J. B. FORD, H. H. DOBBINS, A. FAIRBAIRN, J. M. NEWELL, JOHN MACK, W. W. BRIER, JAMES WOODWORTH, A. M. STEWART, C. W. ANTHONY, E. H. POST, S. P. HERRON.

In consideration of the above proceedings and Memorial, your Committee recommend the following action by this Synod, viz :

1. We cordially endorse the sentiments set forth at said meeting.

2. We are earnestly in favor of uniting with our Cumberland Presbyterian brethren in accordance with the plan there adopted.

3. This Synod appoint a Committee of five to present our action to the Synod of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, hoping that this plan of union may be acceptable to that body, and that the union proposed may be speedily consummated. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. M. NEWELL,  
JOHN SESSIONS,  
JOHN HEMPHILL,  
G. K. GLUYAS,

Committee.

The report of the committee was accepted and made the first order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The Moderator read a telegram from the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars in session at Vallejo, California, as follows :

*To the Moderator of the Presbyterian Synod at Sacramento :*

The Grand Lodge of Good Templars of California sends greeting and sympathy.

ALBERT D. WOOD,

VALLEJO, October 7th, 1874.

It was moved that the telegram be acknowledged and the Moderator return the respectful salutations of the Synod of the Pacific. The following amendment was adopted, to wit :  
“Heartily approving all proper methods for promoting the

cause of temperance, although it is our custom to have official correspondence only with ecclesiastical bodies." Pending the discussion of the resolution as amended, the hour arrived for the order of the day. This order was, on motion, postponed, and it was made the second order of the day to-morrow morning to hear the reports of Committees on Presbyterial Records.

The order of the day was then taken up, and, at the request of the Moderator, Rev. Dr. Scott presided at the meeting for the Sunday-school children, and addresses were delivered by Revs. C. A. Poage, Dr. Eells and Dr. Woodbridge.

At the close of the meeting, Synod took recess until half-past seven o'clock P. M.

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AFTER RECESS, 7½ o'clock P. M.

Synod convened at the expiration of the recess, and according to appointment the session was devoted to the Sunday-school work of the Church. Rev. Dr. Loomis read an essay of Rev. I. M. Condit on Chinese Sunday-schools, after which an address was delivered by Rev. Mr. Hemphill on "The Sunday-school not a Substitute for Domestic Training," and an address by Rev. R. Wylie on "The Necessity of Teaching the Shorter Catechism and the Best Method to make it Interesting." After an interesting discussion on the above topics, the Synod adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer by Rev. A. Williams.

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THURSDAY, October 8th, 1874.

Synod met at 9 A. M., and spent half an hour in devotional exercises under the direction of the Moderator.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Rev. Dr. Scott and Elder George K. Gluyas were excused from attendance after the close of the morning session.

The special committee to which was referred the complaint of Rev. Dr. Woodbridge against the Presbytery of San Francisco, reported as follows, to wit:

The committee to which was referred the complaint of Rev. Dr. Woodbridge against the action of the Presbytery of San

Francisco, beg leave to report, that, after full investigation and consultation, we are unanimously of the opinion that the best solution of the matter is to permit Dr. Woodbridge to withdraw his complaint, which he has agreed to do.

W. W. BRIER, Chairman.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The Committee on *The Occident* asked and received leave to retire.

The hour having arrived for the first order of the day, Synod proceeded to consider the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures in reference to union with the Cumberland Presbyterians. The report was amended and adopted as follows:

*Resolved*, That we adopt the report of the Committee, etc.; but with the following exception: That instead of the language used in the plan of union from the words "let the Cumberland Presbyteries," etc., down to the words "and all records," etc., we substitute the following: "Let the ministers, elders and churches of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church apply to the Presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church, within the bounds of which they live, to be received in the same manner as ministers, elders and churches coming from other denominations.

Rev. J. L. Trefren, of the California Annual Conference, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

The Committee on Finance and Mileage was granted leave to retire.

An invitation to the members of Synod to visit the Sacramento Grammar School, at 9 o'clock, A. M., on Friday morning, was received from the Principal, Mr. A. H. McDonald, and read. On motion, the invitation was accepted, with thanks, and it was recommended that as many members of Synod as find it convenient attend.

The second order of the day was, on motion, postponed to hear the report of the Treasurer, which is as follows:

The Treasurer of the Synod of the Pacific would respectfully report that one year ago there remained in his hands on rendering his report \$164.50, and that he has since received \$390.80 on the assessment for 1873, and has paid out for postage \$3.00; mileage, \$283.15; printing, \$65.00; and salary of stated clerk \$50.00—in all \$401.15, leaving a balance to the account of 1874 of \$154.15. The churches which failed to contribute to the assessment of 1873 are as follows, to wit:

*In the Presbytery of Benicia*—San Rafael, Healdsburg, Davisville and Westminster.

*In the Presbytery of Los Angeles*—None.

*In the Presbytery of Oregon*—Seattle, Steilacoom, San Juan Island, Clatsop, Diamond Hill, Claquato, Calapovia, and Cornelius Plains.

*In the Presbytery of Sacramento*—Ione, Amador, Jackson, Columbia, and Sonora.

*In the Presbytery of San Francisco*—Central, Emmanuel, Larkin Street, Contra Costa, and Olivet.

*In the Presbytery of San Jose*—San Leandro, Centreville, Alvarado, Visalia, and Tule River.

On the assessment of 1874, the Treasurer has received \$186.95, which, with the \$154.15 from last year's assessment, makes \$341.10 in his hands.

The report with the vouchers accompanying was accepted and referred to the Auditing Committee.

The records of the Presbyteries of Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Jose and San Francisco were severally approved.

The records of the Presbytery of Benicia were approved with the following recommendations, viz:

1. That important words, such as " chh " for church, be written in full.

2. That the Presbyterian record should give a fuller account of proceedings appertaining to the H. R. (Honorably Retired) than occurs on page 240.

The Committee on Finance and Mileage were authorized to close their accounts at noon to-day.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported recommending that the overtures from the churches of San Rafael, Brooklyn and Oakland First be referred to the Committee on Boundaries. The report was adopted.

Synod took recess until 2 o'clock, P. M.

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#### AFTER RECESS, 2 o'clock P. M.

At the expiration of the recess, Synod was called to order and the Moderator announced the Committee on Union between the Synod of the Pacific and the Pacific (or Cumberland Presbyterian) Synod as follows:



*Ministers*—W. A. Scott, D.D., LL.D., Robert Patterson, D.D., Prof. W. Alexander, A. M. Stewart, D.D., and R. R. Wells; and on motion, Elders, H. H. Haight and Thomas Douglas were added to the Committee.

Rev. Frederic E. Shearer, Delegate to the Pacific Annual Conference of the M. E. Church South, reported that no meeting of the Conference had been held since he was appointed, and asked to be discharged. The request was granted.

The "Committee of three, one from each of the Presbyteries of San Francisco, San Jose and Sacramento," to whom was referred the consideration of any "alterations in the boundaries of the Presbytery of San Jose," together with a memorial from the church in San Rafael, reported as follows:

That no change be made in the boundaries of the Presbytery of San Jose, except that these be defined so as to include San Mateo County; and that the church in San Rafael be transferred from the Presbytery of Benicia to that of San Francisco.

JAMES EELLS,  
W. W. BRIER,  
J. M. NEWELL,  
Committee.

The report was amended by striking out that portion referring to the church of San Rafael and then laid on the table.

The Standing Committee on Publication reported in part as follows:

That after the action of Synod one year ago a correspondence was inaugurated between the officers of the Board in Philadelphia and Rev. F. E. Shearer concerning the sale of the Books on this Coast, and the books, periodicals, tracts and blanks are now made accessible in all their variety, at the Depository, 757 Market street, San Francisco.

Your Committee desire to state in addition, that we have five noble-hearted, zealous and self-denying missionaries, commissioned by the Board, and laboring within our bounds, doing much in the way of circulating our publications and ready to carry them everywhere at the lowest possible rates. We commend most heartily these brethren to the sympathy and co-operation of all our people.

The removal of the Board's books to 757 Market street has resulted in increased sales, and yet there seems to be a great lack of disposition on the part of our Sunday-schools to avail themselves of their privilege by placing these books in their libraries.

We call marked attention to the fact that a full supply of Shorter Catechisms is offered to all who desire them, without any charge.

Besides the periodicals and Sunday-school lessons, to which much prominence is given by the Board, it has issued during the last year, a number of valuable volumes, among which are the Presbyterian Digest and New Hymnal. The former ought to be owned by every church session and the latter adopted by all our congregations. In the New Hymnal we have, in every respect, a book that is not surpassed in regard to superior merit, well deserving a place in every assembly of worship. The attention of the last Assembly was greatly occupied with the interests of this Board. Its affairs were subjected to a rigid scrutiny, and, we believe, with such results, that its efficiency will be greatly increased hereafter. The wisdom of the church was unwilling to abandon the missionary work of the Board, and as the result, it will have more prominence than ever before in the work of the church, and we trust also in the hearts and prayers of the people. In view of all these facts, your Committee propose the following resolutions as expressing the sentiment of this Synod :

1st. That it be enjoined upon all our ministers and people to make the interests of this Board a subject for serious consideration with a view of increasing our contributions thereto.

2d. That we regard the tendencies of the present age and the condition of many of our churches, as a loud call upon us for additional effort to have our children and youth taught the doctrines of the Confession of Faith, and especially as these are set forth in our time-honored Shorter Catechism.

A. FAIRBAIRN, Chairman of Committee.

The report was accepted and the resolutions adopted.

On motion, the communication from the Grand Lodge of Good Templars was taken up and the following adopted, viz :

The Synod of the Pacific returns respectful salutations to the Grand Lodge of Good Templars, heartily approving all proper methods for promoting the cause of temperance, although it is our custom to have official correspondence only with ecclesiastical bodies.

The Auditing Committee reported that they had examined the Treasurer's account and compared it with the vouchers submitted, and found them correct, and recommended its approval. The report was adopted.

The Committee on Finance and Mileage reported as follows, viz.:

That the state of the Treasury warrants the payment in full, of all claims on the Mileage Fund, amounting to \$337.50. A claim by Rev. H. H. Dobbins for \$4.20, to correct a mistake made unintentionally by the Committee on Mileage last year, was considered by the Committee to be a fair claim in equity ; but, they decided that the power to grant the claim rested only with the Synod.

They recommend that the claim be allowed, and the amount paid, together with the full amount of all claims this year, and that the assessment next year be at the rate of eight cents per member.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT STRONG,  
ABRAHAM DILLEY,  
A. AITKEN,  
JAMES MITCHELL,  
J. M. NEWELL.

The report was adopted.

The Committee appointed by Synod to consult with Dr. Woodbridge, and to bring in some report respecting the possibility of rendering THE OCCIDENT self-supporting, reported as follows :

The Committee learn from Dr. Woodbridge, that effort is soon to be made to increase the list of subscribers, by the employment of a canvassing agent, and that there is reasonable prospect that by this means an income will be secured sufficient to meet all the expenses of the paper, except an editor's salary. We do not see at present, any way by which a competent salary for an editor can be guaranteed by the Synod, but we are rejoiced to know that there is such a favorable prospect for the paper, and unanimously recommend the following action :

1. We heartily appreciate the labors and self-denial with which Dr. Woodbridge has conducted THE OCCIDENT for the past six years, and feel that this acknowledgment of our obligation is but a poor compensation for all that he has thus done for our church.

2. That we earnestly urge upon our ministers and churches to co-operate with the canvassing agent of THE OCCIDENT, in his attempt to increase the list of subscribers, and it is our conviction, which we would emphasize, that such co-operation should not only be in the nature of commendation, but also, so far as possible, of actual work with him to that end.

3. That a Committee of five be appointed by this Synod, to confer with Dr. Woodbridge, respecting any plan for securing a compensation for the editor, if any feasible plan may be proposed.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES EELLS, Chairman.

The report was adopted.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions was made the second order of the day for this evening.

The Committee on the Theological Seminary reported :

That they have examined the minutes of the Board of Directors for the past year, and their report, and recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

1. That the action of the Board as recorded be approved.

2. That we render hearty thanks to Almighty God, for the success which he has granted to the Seminary, in making a beginning in the great work of training up here a ministry for our churches.

3. That we tender our cordial thanks to the Professors who, at so great self-sacrifice and with little or no pecuniary remuneration, have most faithfully performed the work committed to them by the Synod.

4. That we recognize the importance of the Seminary as a means of calling the attention of pious young men to the obligations resting on them, seriously to consider in reference to the ministry, the question, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?"

5. That we recommend all the churches in our bounds to contribute, at as early a day as practicable, to the Contingent Fund of the Seminary, which needs replenishing greatly.

We recommend that vacancies in the Board of Directors be filled as follows: Rev. James Eells, D.D., in place of Rev. E. B. Walsworth, D.D., resigned, in the class going out in 1875; Rev. Robert Patterson, D.D., in place of the Rev. Charles Shelling, resigned, in the class going out in 1876; and Revs. T. M. Cunningham, D. D., Frederic E. Shearer, W. W. Brier, John Hemphill, and Elders S. Franklin and R. J. Trumbull, to constitute the new class to go out in 1877.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN EDWARDS, Chairman.

The report was adopted.

The Moderator announced as a Committee to confer with Rev. Dr. Woodbridge, respecting a plan to secure a compensation for the editor of THE OCCIDENT, Revs. James Eells, D.D. and N. B. Klink, and Elders J. B. Roberts, A. Hemme and J. B. Ford.

On motion the following was adopted, to wit:

That a Committee be appointed to secure complete histories of all the churches under the care of the Synod, and that Pastors and Stated Supplies of our churches be requested to give to this Committee their efficient aid in the furtherance of this object.

For this purpose the Moderator appointed the following: Revs. A. Williams, W. W. Brier, James Woods, S. Woodbridge, D.D., and Elder Nathaniel Gray.

Rev. James Eells, D.D., delegate to the Congregational State Association, reported that there had been no meeting of that body since his appointment. His report was accepted.

On motion, the report of the Committee on the Boundaries of the Presbytery of San Jose was taken up, discussed and laid indefinitely on the table.



It was then

*Resolved*, That the church at Menlo Park be transferred from the Presbytery of San Francisco to the Presbytery of San Jose.

The Committee on the records of the Presbytery of Oregon reported that the records were not in the house and asked to be discharged. The request was granted.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported that there was no further business in their hands and on motion was discharged.

The Judicial Committee was also discharged.

The Committee on Correspondence reported, recommending that Dr. Eells visit the Congregational Association, Rev. T. Fraser the California Annual Conference, Dr. Scott and Dr. Patterson the Cumberland Presbyterian Synod, Rev. Samuel Robinson the Pacific Conference of the M. E. Church South, and Rev. R. Wylie the State Baptist Association. The report was adopted.

On motion, it was decided to hear the report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions; made the second order of the day for this evening.

The report was presented and is in part as follows:

Doors of access to the heathen are opening more and more. Every year new ground is occupied, and in no place where a foothold had been secured have the heralds of the cross been forced to abandon their field.

Our church, always interested in the work of instructing, elevating and evangelizing the American Indians, is still supporting ministers, teachers, and other laborers amongst various tribes, and with encouraging results. During the past three years about 900 have been received to the church from the Nez Perces and Spokane tribes.

The missions amongst the Roman Catholics in South America have been steadily gaining in strength and in favor in that country, and extending their influence. The new missions in Mexico promise good results.

Japan is still drawing the attention of all the world to itself. Changes for the better are constantly going on. Some of the Japanese have professed faith in Christ, and numbers are inquiring.

In China, since Protestant missionaries began to get a foothold in 1840 and 1841, the work of evangelizing that vast country has steadily increased in power and influence, both as relates to the number of the agents and instrumentalities employed, and to the enlargement of the field of operations, and there is now no barrier opposed to the efforts of the preacher of the gospel.

The revivals amongst the foreigners and half-breeds in India it is hoped may extend throughout the country and amongst the mission stations.

Accounts from Syria are very cheering. Reports from regions about the higher sources of the Jordan say that within a short time there has been a religious awakening throughout all that portion of the country. In a village on the western slope of Mount Hermon the entire population have renounced the Greek religion, declared themselves Protestants, and are calling for religious teachers; and like statements are made concerning other places.

From Siam, Laos and Africa we have good accounts of the labors of the missionaries. Twelve hundred have been received to church membership in the foreign missions during the year. The average per minister is greater than in the Church at home. At home the ratio of increase of membership has been five or six per cent.; in the foreign field it is twenty-five per cent. We see the missionary spirit increasing at home. Women's missionary societies are formed and forming, and prosecuting their work with vigor and efficiency. There is reason to hope that before long the women and children in every church will be organized for collecting funds and cultivating the missionary spirit. The \$87,316 raised by the various women's foreign mission societies of our branch of the Church last year, enables us to calculate what sums will be raised when ALL the women of the church are made fully aware of the field open before them, and the honors and privileges they may enjoy.

The Woman's Missionary Society on this Coast have a young but vigorous life, and are extending their organizations; they have commenced a home in San Francisco for women who desire to reform. This home has already a few inmates.

The mission to the Chinese on this Coast is steadily enlarging its sphere of operations and the results of its work are becoming more apparent.

The past year has been very encouraging; the Branch Missions and the Colporteurs' work are bearing fruit. Churches are forming more and more Sabbath-schools for Chinese. In Carson City an important enterprise is conducted chiefly by Chinamen. Ah For, its leader, was baptized by Rev. Dr. Speer when he labored here as a missionary. For the last two or three years he has been employed as colporteur by the American Tract Society.

Another volunteer worker, Yee Tai, was for a long time a scholar in our mission school in San Francisco, and a steady attendant on the chapel services. He sought the acquaintance of Christian people in Carson, attended church and Sabbath-school, aided Ah For and ministers who desired an interpreter. The Chinese in Carson have bought a lot and erected a chapel, contributing most of the funds from their own resources. What has been done in this city may be done in other towns where there are Chinese.

The Committee recommend that Synod call the attention of all the pastors and sessions to the direction of the General Assembly in regard to the monthly concert for prayer and collections for Foreign Missions; and that the pastors take frequent opportunities to instruct their people on the whole subject; and especially in regard to the

duty of the church to try to benefit in every way possible the Chinese whom God has brought to America to be converted so that they in turn may go back to China as missionaries.

A. W. Loomis, Acting Chairman.

The report was accepted, and pending its discussion, Synod took recess until half-past seven o'clock P. M.

AFTER RECESS, 7½ o'clock, P. M.

Synod convened at the expiration of recess and resumed business.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees :

[See pages 3 and 4.]

On motion, the Committee on Sunday-schools had leave to report to the Committee of Arrangements one month before the next meeting of Synod.

It was

*Resolved*, That when Synod adjourns it be to meet in the First Presbyterian Church, of Oakland, California, on the First Tuesday in October, at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

The hour having arrived for the order of the day, the Narrative of the State of Religion was read by Rev. J. M. Newell. (See Appendix II.) The Narrative was on motion adopted.

The following concerning the death of Rev. F. Buel and Rev. L. P. Webber was adopted, to wit :

WHEREAS, The Lord in His all-wise Providence, has removed from the bounds of our Synod, two of our brethren, Rev. Frederick Buel and Rev. L. P. Webber, both faithful and beloved, both leaving behind them in the institutions they were largely instrumental in founding and rearing, the one, the California Bible Society, and the other, the Westminster Colony, enduring memorials of their ability, zeal, perseverance, self-denial and devotion to their Master's service ;

*Resolved*, That in view of what they have so successfully achieved, and of what they were in character and conduct, we have occasion for devout gratitude to God that they were sent to labor on this Coast, and while we recognize with submission the divine sovereignty in their apparently premature removal, we still cannot but regard the event with a sense of severe loss, both in our ministerial circle, church judicatories, and in their fields of labor.

*Resolved*, That we hereby tender our warmest sympathies to their bereaved families, and pray that God would in the fulness of

His comforting grace cause their deep affliction to redound to the larger discovery of the riches of His consolation and the increase of their faith and hope in Him.

It was resolved to appoint a committee to bring in a minute concerning the death of other members of Synod. Revs. J. Mitchell and Robert Strong were appointed such committee.

The report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions was then taken up and adopted.

The Standing Committee on Home Missions reported, and the report as amended and adopted is as follows :

In presenting our annual report we desire to render thanks to Almighty God, for His fostering care and the measure of success that has attended our labors during the year.

In our six presbyteries there have been about sixty ministers receiving aid from the Board, and about seventy churches supplied with preaching by these brethren. Thirteen new churches have been organized, with a membership of upwards of two hundred. These are all supplied with ministers except Point Arena, Ukiah and Cambria, and we hope soon to have a minister at Ukiah. New fields have been visited where in a few years promising congregations may be gathered.

The positions seized and occupied are centres of influence, and the membership of each organization is larger than heretofore, so that our work has had a marked progress, and is in a more prosperous condition than in any preceding year.

Five houses of worship have been built and dedicated, and old debts upon several others have been paid; some of our churches have become self-supporting.

We recommend the adoption of the following, viz. :

*Resolved*, 1. That Synod recommend every session of every church within our bounds to take up a collection for the Board of Home Missions on the first Sabbath in November, or as soon thereafter as practicable, and also request personal contributions, so as to make the amount contributed at least equal to one dollar per member;

2. That our mission churches become self-supporting as fast as possible, and, whenever practicable, to unite with other churches for this purpose;

3. That we cordially recommend to the Board the re-appointment of Rev. Thomas Fraser as our Synodical Missionary, at the same salary as paid last year.

N. B. KLINK, Chairman.

It was

*Resolved*, That we hereby tender our thanks to the Westminster Church for the use of their building for the sessions of the Synod; that we also express our gratitude to the Committee of Arrangements



for the provision made for the accommodation of the members of Synod, and for their kind attention to their wants; and that we also highly commend the people of Sacramento for their kind and hospitable entertainment of our body.

And it was also

*Resolved*, That Synod renew its cordial endorsement of the work of the American Tract Society.

The Committee appointed to prepare a minute concerning the death of Revs. James Wylie and W. S. McLaren, reported as follows:

The Synod have heard with deep sorrow of the departure of our dear brethren, Rev. James Wylie and Rev. W. S. McLaren, who have finished their course and entered into their rest. To this Synod was given the late and ripe fruits of their Christian experience and labor. We sorrow with their families and friends, yet not as those without hope, but as seeing the crown of glory and the brightness of their shining as they have passed into the heavens. We are able to rejoice that as the Lord calls the members of this Synod one by one to the great white throne, they leave such records as these brethren, of faithful lives and great peace.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Leave of Absence beg leave to present the following report:

The persons herein named asked and obtained leave of absence: Rev. H. B. McBride, Elder J. M. F. Johnson, Rev. Hugh McLeod, Rev. R. McCulloch, Dr. S. Woodbridge, Rev. H. R. Avery, Rev. L. Thompson and Rev. Albert Williams.

All of the above is respectfully submitted.

A. FAIRBAIRN,  
Chairman Committee.

The report was accepted.

Rev. A. W. Loomis, D.D., was granted leave of absence.

The minutes were read and approved.

The roll was then called, and none were absent except those excused.

On motion, the Synod adjourned with prayer and the Apostolical benediction by the Moderator.

FREDERIC E. SHEARER,  
Stated Clerk.



# APPENDIX.

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## I.—CONCERNING UNION WITH PACIFIC SYNOD.

### A.—THE CALL FOR A MEETING.

SAN FRANCISCO, August 20th, 1874.

REV. D. E. BUSHNELL :—*Dear Brother in Christ* :—As you are the Stated Clerk of the Pacific Synod, we have thought proper to address you, *unofficially*, concerning the interests of your and our churches.

We need not recount the nature of the church field on this Coast, nor the number of local churches that are seemingly antagonistic, but virtually identical in doctrine, mode of worship, and form of government; the loss we each suffer on account of our divisions, and the blessed results we may expect from a union of our respective denominational forces; for all this is apparent to you.

But, by the action of your late General Assembly, all hope of union is put off to a later day than we desire, and later than we think you desire. We would, therefore, be pleased to meet, *informally*, yourself, and such others of your Synod—ministers and laymen—as you may see fit to invite, or as can conveniently be present, on Thursday, September 10th, at 7½ o'clock P. M., in the study of St. John's Presbyterian (Dr. Scott's) Church, 520 Post street, San Francisco, for a free and candid consideration of all the difficulties and advantages attending such a union of our respective forces.

Hoping this may meet your approval, the approval of your brethren, and result in much increase of God's glory among men, we are, in the faith and hope of the Gospel,

Very cordially, yours,

W. A. SCOTT, JAMES EELS, ROBERT PATTERSON, JOHN HEMPHILL,  
THOMAS FRASER, E. M. BETTS, SAMUEL ROBINSON, FREDERIC E.  
SHEARER, JAMES B. ROBERTS, SAMUEL I. C. SWEZEY, T. M. CUN-  
NINGHAM, A. HEMME.

## B.—MINUTES OF THE CONFERENCE.

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,  
SAN FRANCISCO, September 10th, 1874,  
7½ o'clock P. M.

In response to an informal call as follows, hereto attached, marked "A," there assembled at the proper time Revs. W. A. Scott, D.D., LL.D., James Eells, D.D., Robert Patterson, D.D., John Hemphill and Frederic E. Shearer, and Elder A. Hemme, and Revs. D. E. Bushnell, W. M. Cunningham, J. H. Braley, C. W. Ish and W. Apperson, and Elder, L. Wallace and Mr. J. H. Edwards.

Rev. Dr. Scott was called to the chair and Rev. F. E. Shearer chosen Secretary. Rev. D. E. Bushnell opened the meeting with prayer.

On motion, it was agreed that the persons present should be severally called upon to express their opinions concerning the proposed union. It appeared that the desire for union was unanimous, and, likewise, the belief that it is practicable.

Dr. Scott and Mr. Bushnell were appointed a committee to prepare a plan, and instructed to report at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning, to which hour the meeting adjourned, after prayer by Rev. J. H. Braley.

FREDERIC E. SHEARER, Secretary.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,  
SAN FRANCISCO, September 11th, 1874.

The meeting for informal conference was called to order at 9 A. M., pursuant to adjournment had last evening, and was opened with prayer by Rev. Robert Patterson, D.D. There were present Revs. Bushnell, Braley, Cunningham, Ish and Apperson, and Elder Wallace, and Revs. Dr. Scott, Dr. Patterson, Dr. Eells, Hemphill and Shearer.

The minutes of last evening were read and approved. The committee to prepare a plan of union reported, and the report was fully and freely discussed. Some verbal amendments were made, and the report as hereto appended, marked "C," adopted.

The minutes were then read and approved, and, on motion, the meeting adjourned. Closed with prayer by Rev. Dr. Eells.

FREDERIC E. SHEARER, Secretary.

## C.—REPORT ON PLAN OF UNION.

We, the undersigned, ministers and elders of the Presbyterian and Cumberland Presbyterian Synods on this coast, assembled in an informal, fraternal meeting, agree :

1. That, in our judgment, a union of our two branches of the church of Christ on this coast is in every way desirable and



practicable, and hope it may be accomplished speedily. It seems that our times and circumstances as fellow-laborers for Christ and his kingdom require this union.

2. Having perfect confidence in the soundness of each others' views on all the essentials of our reformed theology, we agree to seek such action in our respective Synods as will bring about a union of our Churches, through the Presbyteries, in accordance with the following plan, viz.:

Encouraged by resolutions of confidence in the Presbyterian Synod and Presbyteries, let the Cumberland Presbyteries occupying conterminous territory be enrolled as ministers, elders and churches, as in the transfer of ministers and churches of the same denomination from the jurisdiction of one Presbytery to that of another, all the ministers, elders, probationers and churches to have the same standing in the Presbyterian Church, as thus formed, that they previously held in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; and all the records and property of the said Cumberland Presbyterian Church to be the property of the united church, except such as may be vested in the Boards of Trustees of the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

September 11th, 1874.

W. A. SCOTT,  
D. E. BUSHNELL.

## II.—NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION.

### FATHERS AND BRETHREN :

The Committee appointed one year ago to prepare a Narrative of the State of Religion within the bounds of this Synod for the ensuing year, begs leave to submit the following report :

One word respecting the sources of information from which we have been able to collect the materials for this report.

At the time the Synod appointed this Committee it instructed the church sessions to prepare a statement of the state of religion in their particular congregations and forward it to the Committee, at least ten days previous to the present meeting. Our prompt and faithful Stated Clerk had the notice of the Synod's action printed in *THE OCCIDENT*, until doubtless some of the weaker brethren thought the reading of it a burden grievous to be borne.

But, alas ! for church sessions. The prophets cried unto them, but it was like the crying of the prophets unto Baal. Either they are talking ; or they are pursuing ; or they are on a journey ; or peradventure they sleep, and must be awaked. From eighty-two of them there was no voice, nor any that answered.

Twenty-five have reported, and to supplement the information thus given we have had to search elsewhere, sometimes, perhaps, entering upon forbidden ground, like David and his men when they broke into the temple and ate the unlawful shew-bread.

There have been laboring within our bounds the past year, as nearly as we can ascertain, one hundred and eleven ministers. There have been at any one time only about twenty-five regularly installed Pastors, and about fifty-two Stated Supplies, showing that in these times, with churches and ministers as with individuals, marriage, though most honorable, is not most acceptable. How shall the ministry be brought into closer, more affectionate and permanent relationship to the congregations? Three ministers have been acting as missionaries for our Board of Publication. Ten or eleven have been teachers in schools and academies and in our College and Theological Seminary. Others, unable to do the full work of the ministry, have aided in miscellaneous religious meetings, distributing tracts, etc. And some few of our number seem to have well-nigh finished their race. They have outrun the rest of us—have run too fast, perhaps, and wait at the door of the sepulchre, eager to behold their risen Lord.

And one father, whose very presence was a benediction upon us all at our yearly convocations, and two faithful and beloved brethren, have, since we last met, entered into the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. Revs. James Wylie, Frederic Buel, and L. P. Webber have answered to the roll-call of the General Assembly above.

Of ministers engaged in actual preaching and pastoral work there are in our Synod less than one hundred. Enough, if they are such men as Barnabas—good men, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith, to go where Satan's seat is and shake the very foundations of his kingdom.

Among these ministers are Foreign Missionaries, casting the sweetening branch of the Gospel into the bitter waters of heathenism which are rolling in upon our shores. There are also Home Missionaries—a large number of them—Pauline men, refusing to build on another man's foundation. Two of these come from Eastern Nevada; five or six are in Oregon, denied by their distance even the luxury of meeting their brethren in Synod. Nearly every growing town and promising settlement in California have been hunted out by these self-denying seekers for souls.

From our older fields, too, come men, showing hardly less the marks of toil for the Master. They have earned the right to say, "From henceforth let no man trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus."

Some are careworn and weary; some are ready to be offered up; some are bringing forth fruit in old age, and some are fat and flourishing.

And have we a hundred consecrated men? And does the banner of our Redeemer unfurl over a hundred chosen stand-points?

Said a great religious leader, "If I had a hundred men who fear nothing but God and hate nothing but sin, I would set up the Kingdom of God in the world and the gates of hell would not prevail against it."

There are 107 organized churches in the Synod. Five of these are in the State of Nevada; nineteen in Oregon; one in Idaho; nine in Washington Territory, and seventy-three in California. There are some other preaching places where no organizations have been effected. There has been preaching in most of these churches regularly, and in nearly all of them a portion of the year. Sixty-four of these churches report accessions during the year on examination or on certificate. For the year ending the first of May, which is about the same as the year ending the first of October, there were added to all the churches in our bounds: On examination, 853, on certificate, 540; aggregate, 1,393. A number of church buildings have been completed during the year and a number more are in process of erection. These cold statistics tell but little of the truth. The toil and the waiting and the watching cannot be written.

It has been a year of labor rather than one of visible success. The story of most of the brethren is that of ploughers and sowers. Only two or three come singing the happy harvest home of the reaper. Strong men have been laying foundations broad and deep, but Zion's walls of beauty and glory-reflecting pinnacles have not yet arisen on these golden shores.

Our report would not be truthful if it did not mention the spirit which pervades nearly all the reports received. Gratitude for the little done, but sorrow that there is not more. The confession is frank and general that the power of the preached Gospel of the Son of God under the dispensation of the Holy Ghost has never yet been fully realized on this Pacific Coast. What Christ plainly promised His Church—what he has actually realized to His people in every country and locality where His Kingdom has really become strong and lasting—has not yet come to us.

In most localities there is no want of hard labor and faithfulness.

It remains true after all that the great, the paramount want of this coast, yea, of the Presbyterian Church on this coast, *is more religion*.

Having taken a general view of the work, we would now mention a few things which are deserving of special notice:

1. There have been special manifestations of the spirit's presence at Santa Clara, San Diego, Davisville and Visalia, at times, during the year. Our larger churches generally report steady fruits of the Spirit in the conversion of sinners. From Oregon no voice is heard, but judging from the accessions to the churches there the Spirit must be honoring the truth of the Son. In a school-house prayer-meeting, where there is no church, special interest is reported, with ten or more hopeful conversions. One Sabbath-school has felt a special awakening, and a number of children, some

quite young, profess love for the Saviour. These are items deserving of our thankful remembrance.

2. The care taken of the needy poor in some churches, and we hope in all, deserves special notice. One church has distributed a thousand dollars to the necessity of the saints in its communion. Other churches report having done all that was required for the needy.

3. Many of the churches report a more prosperous financial condition since our last meeting. The reduction or removal of old debts, finishing, repairing and building of churches, etc. Some salaries have been paid more promptly. Some are accumulating money for manse to be used when there shall be sufficient. Though some few sessions report embarrassments, upon the whole, the temporalities of the church are in a much improved condition.

4. The methods of raising money in some churches deserve notice. One method is the distribution at the beginning of the year of fifty-two envelopes to each member of the church and congregation, old and young—each person to return one envelope a week with whatever he will give for the Lord's cause. Any not returned are called for. A method like this is reported as having amply provided for the financial wants of one of our largest churches. Some churches solicit money for the Boards by placing a box at the entrance of the church.

5. Our Foreign Missionary brethren send us a most encouraging report of their year's labors among the Chinese. Eighteen have been received into the church on examination, and three on certificate. Among the accessions were a Chinaman and his wife. Others have applied and are waiting to be received. Three preachers, and eight teachers, and two colporteurs—thirteen in all—are fully employed in connection with this mission. The principal stations are, San Francisco, San Jose, and Sacramento. Colporteurs go through the country wherever there are Chinese settlements. The labors of these missionaries are abundant. Day and night, week-days and Sundays, teaching, and preaching, and visiting, sowing everywhere the seeds of the Kingdom of God. Some of the Chinese Sunday-schools in connection with other churches are reported large and encouraging.

6. We would also make thankful mention of the work done by the missionaries of the Board of Publication, especially in sections where the Gospel is not regularly preached. By their personal services, and the books they leave, they carry blessings into many Christian households. And some have come by means of this agency to drink, for the first time, at the fountain of life, freely.

7. The reports of the Presbyterial meetings during the year, show great improvement in Presbyterial supervision of the churches and management of the work. Presbyteries are not to churches what the chain is to the slave, but what the girdle is to the racer—a stay and support to them in running the Christian race.

8. Ministers and Christians generally are being brought into



closer acquaintance and fellowship. We are realizing that we are all under the same banner, and that banner is *love*. A member of an Ohio Presbytery being asked if he favored the union of churches, said, "Yes; and first I would propose the union of members of my own church, and next those of my own Presbytery." Surely there are heights of ministerial and Christian fellowship to which we have not yet attained. If all Christians of every name are one in Christ, as God and Christ are one, how near should all Presbyterians be; yea, how very near should all Presbyterian ministers be! O, for a melting down and flowing together of hearts, that we should love one another even as *Christ loved us!*

9. Among the special agencies mentioned as resulting in spiritual good, are the following: (a.) Cottage meetings for Bible reading and prayer, under the supervision of a Minister or Elder. (b.) Continued services during and following the week of prayer. (c.) Pastoral visitation in company with the elders or more experienced members of the church.

After all, Fathers and Brethren, let us sing unto the Lord, for He hath done excellent things. Though our deepest prayers have not yet been fulfilled, and our highest hopes are yet unrealized, still, let us ask ourselves what would have been the state of things here, religiously, if this labor in the Gospel had not been performed, and these droppings had not fallen upon the thirsty ground? Is there a minister here who has not, since last we met, led some soul out of the darkness of unbelief, through the twilight of repentance, into the marvellous light and glorious liberty of the sons of God?

The year's labor for Jesus! It has not been fruitless. O, if we could but see all those who have this year, for the first time, tasted and seen that the Lord is good, gathered together in one happy company, we would leap for joy as we turn again to our labors. Let us picture to ourselves that company. More than half a thousand glory-bound souls!

Oh! yes, if the inspiration of success is what is needed, we have it. When we think what it is for only a few souls to be saved, we can sing with Rutherford:

"If but one soul from Anworth,  
Meet me at God's right hand,  
My heaven will be two heavens,  
In my Immanuel's land."

And what need we fear, like Elisha's blind servant, saying, "Alas! my master, how shall we do?" "They that be with us are more than they that be with them." "Behold, the mountain is full of horses and chariots of fire round about us."

The name of Jesus Christ is omnipotent in all worlds.

The disciples waited at Jerusalem till the Holy Ghost should come upon them. He did come, and now the command no longer is, "Wait for the Holy Ghost." Jesus *is* glorified. The Holy

Ghost is given. The command now is, "*Receive ye the Holy Ghost.*"

Some of the brethren describe their fields, for the past year, as hard and discouraging. They have not felt the inspiration of marching with a host, but they have stood far out on the advance picket posts, alone. And yet not one of them speaks of surrender or turning back. With a risen and interceding Saviour, and a descending and quickening Spirit, what has any of God's soldiers to fear?

" In the Cross of Christ we glory,  
Towering o'er the wrecks of time ;  
All the light of sacred story  
Gathers round its head sublime."

Eighteen hundred years ago, on a mountain top far away, a little company of disciples were collected to hear the last words of the ascending Saviour: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature;" and "lo! I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

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